

Two moths new to Devon and a third confirmed breeding

On 16 June 1996 a single *Pseudotelphusa scalella* (Scop.) (Lep.: Gelechiidae) came to light at Hembury Woods, near Ashburton, Devon. A second specimen was taken at the same locality on 2 May 1997 by Barry Henwood. On 27 July 1997 an example of *Ptycholomoides aeriferanus* (H.-S.) (Tortricidae) also came to light, this time at Colaton Ralieggh Common near Yellington. Both species were kindly identified by Dennis O'Keeffe and Bob Heckford confirmed them both as being new to the county of Devon.

The Sloe Pug *Chloroclystis chloerata* (Mab.) (Geometridae) was found to be breeding in Devon near to the border with Dorset at Lyme Regis when larvae were beaten from flowers of blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* on 12 April 1997. These were subsequently reared and produced imagines on 16 and 18 May 1997. Larvae were also found at Charmouth, Dorset on the same day.— ROY MCCORMICK, 36 Paradise Road, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8NR.

***Bibio pomonae* (Fabricius) (Dip.: Bibionidae) in East Kent**

Freeman and Lane (1985. *Bibionid and Scatopsid Flies, Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects*.9(7)) omitted Kent from their county list for *Bibio pomonae* and stated that the species is to be found particularly in hilly or mountainous districts. Felton (1980. Further notes on the insects of Hothfield Local Nature Reserve. *Trans. Kent Fld. Club* 8 (2):1980) referred to a record of this species by Dr I.F.G. Mclean at Hothfield Common (O.S. grid ref. TQ94) on 16 July 1975. On 14 July 1985 I observed several males hovering some distance above the ground amongst some silver birch *Betula pendula* trees at Mintching Wood, Kingsdown (TQ 913593). Occasionally members of the group would plunge earthward but their rapid flight eluded capture, even with a long-handled net. Two males were later observed feeding from a hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium* umbel and these were retained as vouchers. On 5 July 1997 a further male was taken as it fed upon a hogweed umbel at Covert Wood (TR 182494). Freeman and Lane stated that *Bibio pomonae* is apparently double-brooded with spring and late summer peaks. Whilst most species of *Bibio* peak during May *pomonae* has apparently not been observed locally during this month. The habitats of each of the three Kent localities are very varied with Hothfield being largely sandy heathland, Mintching Wood clay chestnut coppice and Covert Wood a calcareous mixed deciduous and conifer slope.— LAURENCE CLEMONS, 14 St. John's Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4NE.

More on *Blastobasis decolorella* (Woll.) (Lep.: Blastobasidae) in North Hampshire

I was interested to discover that Alasdair Aston's capture of *Blastobasis decolorella* at Selborne was a first for the North Hampshire Vice-county (*antea*: 254). In view of this, I should perhaps place on record the fact that I netted three or four examples of this species on Blackbushe Airfield, North Hampshire on both 5 and 28 June 1998, flying in a track at the edge of mixed scrub composed of *Crataegus monogyna*, *Prunus spinosa* and *Ulex europaeus*. I did not realise the significance of the record at the time and, having encountered the species commonly in east London, did not feel the need to retain a voucher specimen.— COLIN W. PLANT, 14 West Road, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 3QP.